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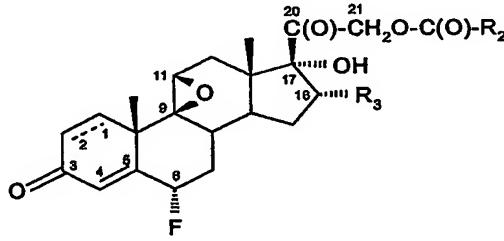
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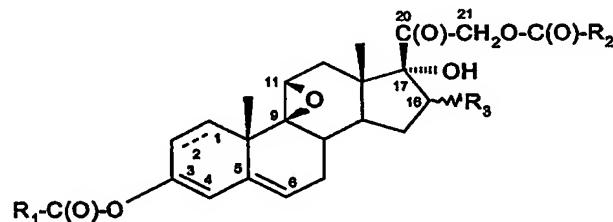
For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: PROCESS FOR THE PREPARATION OF PREGNANES



(I)

(57) Abstract: An improved stereoselective process for the preparation of 6α -fluoropregnane derivatives of formula (I), comprising the reaction of 3-benzoyloxy- Δ 3,5-pregnane derivatives of formula (II), with an electrophilic fluorination agent in a substantially water-free reaction mixture and in the presence of a salt of a strong acid with a nitrogenous base.



(II)

WO 2004/052911 A1